

TOP SECRET

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ATTACHMENT TO L-2756  
28 FEBRUARY 1967  
PAGE 1

BAI THUONG AIRFIELD  
BAI THUONG, NORTH VIETNAM  
1954N 10528E

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1. SIGNIFICANCE:

THIS BRIEFING BOARD PORTRAYS NEWLY CONSTRUCTED AIRCRAFT REVETMENTS  
AT BAI THUONG AIRFIELD.

2. LOCATION:

BAI THUONG AIRFIELD IS LOCATED AT 19-54-04N 105-28-22E, APPROXIMATELY  
4.8 NM EAST OF THE VILLAGE OF BAI THUONG, AND NINETEEN NM NORTH-NORTHWEST  
OF THANH HOA.

3. MISSION READOUT:

[REDACTED] REVEALS NEW AIRCRAFT REVETMENTS  
AT BAI THUONG AIRFIELD. THE INSTALLATION NOW HAS A TOTAL OF FIFTY-EIGHT  
AIRCRAFT REVETMENTS, FORTY-FIVE OF WHICH ARE NEWLY IDENTIFIED, AND TWELVE  
PROBABLE AIRCRAFT REVETMENTS. SOME ARE LOCATED AS FAR AS TWO NM WEST OF  
THE AIRFIELD IN WOODED AREAS AND SOME IN SMALL VILLAGES SCATTERED THROUGH-  
OUT THE AREA. THE BULK, HOWEVER, ARE LOCATED IMMEDIATELY WEST OF THE  
AIRFIELD IN THREE DISPERSAL AREAS. ALL BUT TWO REVETMENTS ARE CONNECTED  
BY GOOD ROADS TO THE AIRFIELD.

CONSTRUCTION ON THE 7850 X 150 FT., NW/SE RUNWAY APPEARS COMPLETE  
EXCEPT FOR FINAL SURFACING. THREE BOMB CRATERS ARE LOCATED ON THE SOUTH-  
EAST END OF THE RUNWAY AND TWO MORE ARE LOCATED IN THE GROUP OF AIRCRAFT  
REVETMENTS ADJACENT TO THIS END OF THE RUNWAY. NO AIRCRAFT ARE OBSERVED.

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25X1

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ATTACHMENT TO L-2756  
28 FEBRUARY 1967  
PAGE 2

4. REMARKS:

ALTHOUGH IT IS ESTIMATED THAT NORTH VIETNAM CAN SUPPORT 150-200 COMBAT AIRCRAFT WITH ITS PRESENT JET-CAPABLE AIRFIELDS, COLLATERAL REPORTS SUGGEST THAT INSUFFICIENT FACILITIES FOR DISPERSAL AND MAINTENANCE MAY BE ONE REASON WHY THE NORTH VIETNAMESE AIR FORCE HAS NOT BEEN PROVIDED WITH A LARGER NUMBER OF FIGHTER AIRCRAFT. THE REPORTS FURTHER INDICATED THAT NORTH VIETNAM WAS TAKING STEPS TO ALLEVIATE THIS SITUATION THROUGH CONSTRUCTION OF NEW AIRFIELDS.

THREE, POSSIBLY FOUR, NEW AIRFIELDS HAVE BEEN UNDER CONSTRUCTION IN NORTH VIETNAM DURING 1966. ONE OF THESE, WHICH HAS BEEN UNDER CONSTRUCTION SINCE JULY 1965, IS AT BAI THUONG. THIS FACILITY HAS BEEN THE TARGET OF SEVERAL U.S. AIR STRIKES. WHILE WORK WAS TEMPORARILY SUSPENDED, RECENT PHOTOGRAPHY REVEALS THAT WORK HAS AGAIN COMMENCED.<sup>1</sup>

X1 [REDACTED]  
<sup>1</sup>USAF 1966 ANNUAL ROUNDUP, A REVIEW OF SIGNIFICANT SIGINT INFORMATION ON AIR ACTIVITIES AND CAPABILITIES.

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